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NEW HOPE IN CHINA Way Open For Calling Of Political Council

CHUNGKING, DEC. 17.—NEW HOPE FOR PREVENTION OF ALL-OUT CIVIL WAR IN CHINA AND ACHIEVEMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY IS STIMULATED BY THE PRESENCE IN CHUNGKING OF ALL SEVEN COMMUNIST DELEGATES TO THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL.

THE GROUP IS HEADED BY GEN. CHOU EN-LAI, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY, AND IT INCLUDES GEN. YEH HSIEN-YING, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE COMMUNIST ARMIES.

Execution Of Chinese Consul

MAKING A POINT OF NOT BEING AHEAD OF THE CURVE, THE CHINESE CONSUL IN LONDON, L. H. WANG, STAYED IN THE CITY UNTIL AFTER THE DEATH OF THE CONSUL GENERAL, CHEN CHANG-CHANG, WHO WAS KILLED BY THE JAPANESE IN 1941.

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Treasure Hunt On In Europe

LONDON, DEC. 17.—EUROPE'S GIANT TREASURE HUNT IS ON. NON-FASSIST COUNTRIES ARE IN SEARCH FOR THEIR OBJECTS D'ART. F.A.C.T.O.R.Y. MACHINERY AND OTHER GOODS STOLEN BY THE NAZIS.

Holland is doing fairly well. Gen. Eisenhower personally provided the facilities for the return of many of her masterpieces. Other looted goods returned from the American zone included boring machines and railway material from Bremen. Some of them were in poor condition.

Machines from Bremen will be going to Amsterdam factories and the Rotterdam drydock company. This, of course, represents only a fraction of Holland's total looted property, but the Dutch authorities declare that they are receiving every item from the Allies.

They are also being helped by the Nazis themselves. With their well-known thoroughness they have lists of all stolen material, what factories or industries it came from, and the names of the owners.

A comprehensive card index of all machines looted locally was, for instance, found in Rotterdam. The central figure behind the looting organization was V. Gerson, a German fifth columnist in the Netherlands. As they cure his handiwork, Hollanders are today grateful that he was at least methodical.—Reuter.

JOB FOR SCIENTISTS

Tokyo, Dec. 17.—Allied Headquarters today urged Japan's scientists to tackle the problem of increasing petroleum and coal production and of developing other natural resources.

This hope of agreement was bolstered further by President Truman's statement on American China policy, with the part of which even the Communists appeared in agreement.

With approval of the Council and the part of which even the Communists appeared in agreement, the Council will have to consider and attempt to solve all outstanding problems between the Nationalists and Communists.

MILITARY EXPERT.—Gen. Yeh Hsiang-ying has been included in the Communist delegation as a military expert, and if an accord is reached he is likely to remain in Chungking to work out technical details connected with any decisions affecting Nationalist and Communist armies.

If so, he will be one of a military subcommittee of three. The other two will be members of the National Government.

The two Communist generals will be in Chungking when Gen. George C. Marshall arrives. Then they will be in a special American survey to China and they will be ready to meet him at any time he wishes.

Chou En-lai is fully qualified to present the Communist case to Marshall, at whatever the Communists would like to see the presidential envoy to visit Yenan to talk to their leaders. May. The Ump. Associated Press.

YOU'RE AN ASS, UNCLE HERMANN

NUERNBERG, DEC. 17.—"DEAR UNCLE HERMANN, NOW THAT YOU'VE TIME TO PONDER OVER THE THOUSAND YEAR REICH, TELL US WHETHER YOU STILL PREFER GUNS TO BUTTER."

This is typical of the fan mail Goering receives in prison every day from his sardonic countrymen.

"You're an ass," emphasizes another admirer. The day Stalag Luft 3 fell you must have known the war was over. Now it is Berlin and other German towns which look like Stalag Luft 3.

Goering is way ahead as far as the amount of fan mail is concerned, although Rudolf Hess, Marshal Wilhelm Keitel and the others also receive (ironical) mail from disappointed Germans.

Beautiful

Honolulu, Dec. 17.—General George C. Marshall arrived at Hickam Field today en route to his post as new United States Ambassador to China.

Marshall made no comment on anything except that it was a beautiful day. He was accompanied by his secretary, Chief War Office Officer Richard Hickey.

SHANGHAI, DEC. 17.—ROLAND SAILEY, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE FRENCH MUNICIPAL POLICE IN SHANGHAI AND L. K. KENT, FORMER CHIEF OF POLICE, WHO RENOUNCED THEIR CITIZENSHIP WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY YESTERDAY BY THE SHANGHAI GARRISON HEADQUARTERS FOR QUESTIONING.

Both are being detained for investigation as alleged collaborators.

Headquarters said that Kent well once served in the Legation of Yenan in the Puppet Nanking Government.

The Frenchtown has protested against the arrest of Sailey claiming it was a violation of the previous treaties.

Kentwell, at one time, was publisher of the "Daily Sun" in Canton. Associated Press.

IN A COLD DARK ROOM OF THE YOKOHAMA COURT HOUSE EIGHT OF NINE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY COMMISSION MET TODAY IN AN ORGANISATION SESSION TO SET THE STAGE FOR THE FIRST WAR CRIMES TRIALS TO BE HELD IN JAPAN.

NONE OF THE FIVE JAPANESE PRISONERS, ALL ACCUSED OF COMMITTING OR CONDONING ATROCITIES AGAINST ALLIED PRISONERS OF WAR, WAS IN THE COURT ROOM AS THE COMMISSION SET THE PROCEDURE FOR THE TRIALS WHICH MEAN LIFE OR DEATH FOR THEM.

Tatsuo Tsuchiya, whom the prisoners have accused of mistreating called "little glass eye," will be arraigned on Dec. 18.

and the trial is expected to start almost immediately.

Throughout today's discussion of the procedure there was emphasis that the accused be given a fair trial, although it was decided not to translate the record from English to Japanese.

Lieut.-Colonel Dickinson, of St. Petersburg, Florida, Chief Defense Counsel, said that such translation would mean the trials would last more than a year.

The defendants will be given a complete translation of the evidence against them, however, when such evidence is given in English.

The question arose as to the inclusion of the phrase "So help you God" in the oath to be made binding in particular the religion of the defendant.—Associated Press.

IN RESIGNING HIS PREMIERSHIP ON DEC. 16, 1941, PRINCE KONOYE INFORMED EMPEROR HIROHITO THAT GENERAL TOJO WAS INSISTING UPON SPECIFICATION OF A DATE FOR STARTING THE PACIFIC WAR.

This was revealed by the newspaper "Asahi" in publishing the text of the Premier's resignation.

The "Asahi" in its editorial, said that the Prince's "weakness of character was bound to constitute a state crime" because it made the war easy.

Konoye had told the Emperor that Tojo, then War Minister, had refused to agree to the withdrawal of Japanese troops from China "because of its effect on the morale of the Army." This withdrawal was a prerequisite to a successful conclusion of the Washington negotiations that were then under way.

Konoye had said that he was unable to change Tojo's viewpoint in four talks.

The Prince had expressed the opinion that "there was still some hope for an amicable settlement of the negotiations with the United States" if the withdrawal of Japanese troops from China took place.—Associated Press.

Konoye Was Reading Oscar Wilde

TOKYO, DEC. 17.—PRINCE KONOYE'S SUICIDE BY POISON—A METHOD SCORNED BY MANY JAPANESE BECAUSE IT IS REGARDED AS PAINLESS—WAS NEVERTHELESS SURROUNDED WITH MUCH CEREMONIOUS FACE WHICH MEANS MUCH HERE.

KONOYE ENTERTAINED RELATIVES AND CLOSE FRIENDS AT A FAREWELL DINNER. THEY THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE HE WAS DUE TO SURRENDER BY MIDNIGHT TO THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

They said there was no hint of suicide, and no mention of his expected imprisonment was made.

Princess Konoye apparently was not warned. She prepared his luggage for his prison trip.

Konoye's body was found clad in pyjamas with a foreign style pillow under his head. His hands were folded peacefully across his chest and his shaven face appeared serene.

Relatives substituted the white ceremonial kimono for the pyjama and moved the body from its east-west position to a north-south position in keeping with Japanese custom.

Three American soldiers stationed at the small entrance of the hall took off their shoes as the Japanese custom upon entering a house.

On the verandah of Prince Konoye's home were found Gibbons' "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" and Oscar Wilde's "De Profundis" and "Ballad of Reading Gaol," which the former Premier was evidently reading shortly before he committed suicide.

In "De Profundis" this passage was underlined in red: "Soberly as we have accepted it, it will have no place in me because it has none to offer, but nature whose sweet cure falls on the unjust and the just alike will have clefts in rocks where I may hide and secret valleys in whose silence I may weep undisturbed." Associated Press.

House as there were new Indian tones of the revival of the discussion of abdication. Some Japanese believed that the suicide might be a final factor precipitating the Emperor's abdication.

Doubtless, Hirohito felt the blow deeply. Konoye was long a close confidant and was generally believed that the ruler placed great confidence and authority in his hands.

His death was a swift blow paralleling MacArthur's Shinto directive which itself struck hard at Hirohito. Before that was widespread, Headquarters' criminal list had straggled far around the Throne, all but two of the principal and still active Court figures in the last 16 years.

The Imperial Household itself was invaded by the arrest of Prince Nashimoto. Associated Press.

JAPAN AND VATICAN.—Tokyo, Dec. 17.—Allied Headquarters today ordered the severance of diplomatic relations between Japan and the Vatican in extension of the previous Allied directive demanding the recall of various Japanese diplomatic missions abroad.—Associated Press.

INDONESIANS COOPERATE.—BATAVIA, DEC. 17.—BRITISH HEADQUARTERS TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR TROOPS HAD BURNED DOWN A VILLAGE NEAR RUITENZORG WHERE THE NATIVES HAD BEEN REPORTED SHOOTING AT RAILWAY TRAINS.

The announcement said: "The Bandoeng situation is quiet. The Indonesian Army is proving more cooperative and has expressed a desire to increase their efforts to restore order."

A British patrol, which was fired on at Soreang received naval gun-fire and artillery support.—Associated Press.

U.S. MILITARY SPLIT ON CHINA POLICY

(By Hal Boyle).

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT ON CHINA IS A CLEAR-CUT VICTORY FOR THOSE AMERICAN MILITARY LEADERS WHO BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CEASE ITS "BLANK CHECK" SUPPORT OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK AND BRING FULL DIPLOMATIC, FINANCIAL AND MORAL PRESURE ON HIS NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS.

THERE HAS BEEN A WIDE OPEN SPLIT AMONG TOP AMERICAN MILITARY AND NAVAL COMMANDERS IN CHINA OVER THE ROLE THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PLAY IN AVERTING FULL SCALE CHINESE CIVIL WAR WHICH MIGHT OPEN NEW INTERNATIONAL WOUNDS.

Their views are as opposed as views within America's diplomatic corps, which clashed strongly. Gen. Patrick Hurley, the resigned Ambassador, is believed to have been the strongest advocate of all-out support for Chiang Kai-shek.

Some U.S. army leaders have advocated openly throwing full support behind the Central Government. American arms and money backed with ships and perhaps troops in secondary support could no doubt quickly enable the Chungking Government to crush its opposition. But that would hardly create a free, democratic, united China.

Other leaders grouped around Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer have suggested, and favored, throwing China's problem before the United Nations organization for settlement. This would spread responsibility, increase Russian influence in China, and opponents say indefinitely extend and aggravate present frictions on side and outside of China.

BACK TRUMAN.—But naval and marine officers who feel themselves most closely bound up with the problem, since they have ferried Chinese Nationalist troops and now are guarding their railroad lines, have stood strongest for the position now taken by President Truman. They want China's warring factions to compromise their enmities and build a common government that can in time cure their country's ills by democratic processes.

This is the way most American fighting men on the scene responded when I talked to them about it.

"To begin with, we don't have any business whatsoever fighting somebody else's civil war. The Chinese Communists can't hope to win as long as the Nationalists have help from hundreds of thousands of armed Japanese troops and indirect support of American marines."

"On the other hand, as long as we keep giving Chiang Kai-shek American arms and ships and money and lend him use of our troops he won't compromise. Why should he? He knows he can get everything he wants if we give him everything he needs."

KEYSTONE OF POLICY.—These leaders have felt all along that the United States should firmly tell both Communists and Nationalists to compose their differences, warning Chiang Kai-shek that if he failed to show willingness to compromise, American would withhold any further help of any kind, and promise that if they agreed to try to work out their problems without armed strife America would back their united programme in every way to make China a power among the world's nations.

That now would seem to be the keystone of President Truman's policy.

There still remains the hard fact that whatever soft words may be used to cloak it, the real function of American marines in the Pacific is to pick up his royal robes and flee, leaving behind him 12 wives and innumerable concubines.

ADDRESS UNKNOWN.—Actually His Majesty had abdicated in favour of his nephew, but both are believed to be living as fugitives, and in French archives their present address is marked as "unknown."

The Quai d'Orsay is frankly worried. On humanitarian grounds it trembles to think what the aboriginal races inhabiting the mountains may do if the monarchs fall into their hands.

It is even more perturbed at the threat to the French Far Eastern position, as the Americans are reported to be eager to exploit the economic resources of Laos.

So the French authorities feel that one way of restoring some order is to find their black king and reinstate him on this Asiatic chess-board.—Reuter.

Damp Squib

New York, Dec. 17.—Glenn Habb, foreign news executive editor of the Associated Press, broadcast today that for the average Japanese citizen the dream of conquest was "like a lovely fireworks display, lit and felled out in the rain and darkness."

Habb said the average Japanese "is now beginning to realize he was dragged into the war, and, believe me, he was glad to see it end at any price."—Associated Press.

MOSCOW, DEC. 17.—THE RUSSIANS OPENED THEIR OWN WAR CRIMES TRIAL WHEN TEN GERMANS OF LOW RANK WERE ARRAIGNED BEFORE A MILITARY TRIBUNAL HERE CHARGED WITH ATROCITIES IN THE SMOLENSK AREA DURING THE NAZI OCCUPATION.

There were indications that the defendants participated in the killing of more than 135,000 Soviet citizens, looting and destroying industrial enterprises and expatriating Russian captives draining blood from children for transfusions to German soldiers.

BIG THREE'S WIDE FIELD

LONDON, DEC. 17.—THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN AND RUSSIA OPENED THE FIRST SESSION OF THEIR MOMENTOUS CONFERENCE ON A WIDE VARIETY OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY.

British dispatches said that prior to the meeting, British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin conferred with Sir Richard Williams Bullard, British Ambassador to Iran, on the latest development in that country.

The conference is not expected to accomplish much more than routine business of their first session. None of the major issues are likely to come up for discussion until the three Foreign Secretaries have settled matters of procedure. Associated Press.

FAT WILL BE In The Fire

JERUSALEM, DEC. 17.—AT THE MOMENT TENSION IN PALESTINE APPEARS SOMEWHAT RELAXED AS THE HAGANAH (JEWISH LEADERS HAVE APPARENTLY HAD SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE POLITICAL WISDOM OF CHALLENGING BRITAIN AT THIS STAGE WITH FORCE.

The whole of Palestine, however, is bristling with troops. Arrival of the joint Anglo-American commission is expected shortly and all parties are hastily preparing to put their case before it.

Test of the new commission is expected early in the proceedings now that both Jew and Arab leaders have definitely—though not yet publicly—agreed fully to collaborate with the commission.

It is expected that the commission will have to make its first pronouncement on immediate emergency immigration, and one way or another the fat will then be in the fire.—Reuter.

SHARP DROP IN TEMPERATURE

To-day's forecast:—Moderate to fresh north-easterly winds. Cloudy with occasional showers, remaining cold.

Yesterday's temperature:—Maximum—71 degrees at 5 a.m. Minimum—56 degrees at 11 p.m.

PATTON BULLETIN

Holldorf, Dec. 17.—The general condition of General Patton, former commander of the Third Army, who was injured in a car crash last Sunday, is excellent, says the latest bulletin.—Reuter.

THE CHINA MAIL

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UNITED NATIONS

Although minor points of controversy crop up from time to time, it is evident that substantial progress is being achieved in the task of building the new structure of the United Nations Organization. The location of the permanent headquarters of the new organization has been finally agreed, and all the major powers have agreed to accept its removal from Europe might have proved a serious handicap to its efficient functioning. The fact that the development of rapid air transport has made the Atlantic distance involved for most nations a negligible factor, presents an insurmountable obstacle. No doubt many countries would prefer to have the headquarters of the United Nations in their own country, but there were no purely psychological reasons for the choice of the United States, and in the long run, the choice may well prove to have been a very wise one. The most recent dispute, regarding the respective powers and rights of the General Assembly and the Security Council, has also been amicably settled, with the General Assembly free to meet its own judgment in discussion of the recommendations of the Preparatory Commission. The functions of the Security Council are, of course, crucial to the success of the new Organization as a whole. It is the Council to be regarded mainly as a special instrument held in reserve, or as a means of dealing with the peace. On the other hand, a significant role in the shaping of international relations and lines has been calculated to assure that branches of the peace shall not occur. The text of the Charter appears to interpret its functions in the widest sense. Not only does it possess "primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security," but it will be "so organized as to be able to function continuously" and "may investigate any dispute, or any situation which might lead to international friction or give rise to a dispute, in order to determine whether its continuance is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security." The discharge of all these functions is conditioned by the vital provision requiring the unanimity of the Great Powers for enforcement action. But it would be a pity if the Great Powers developed any disposition to withhold their active intervention in the procedures of the organization until matters had reached a pass where enforcement was necessary. As a British official commentator declares, "the successful working of the United Nations depends on the preservation of the unanimity of the Great Powers"; and this unanimity will be required not only in using force to uphold the decisions of the organization but in framing and guiding those decisions along wise and practical lines. One may properly deprecate a quest for a perfectionist scheme for the future ordering of the world, but the logic of the structure of the new organization confers on it positive as well as negative obligations. It must not only curb and forestall potential aggression but act to remedy situations and avert grievances out of which aggression may be likely to grow. In this respect its functions run parallel to those of the Social and Economic Council, whose responsibilities are substantially greater than was contemplated in the original Dumbarton Oaks plan. None of those concerned with working out plans for the organization can afford to ignore the truth and the mere restraint of aggression is not a policy in itself—or at any rate not a policy which can in the long run succeed by itself. One essential and indispensable function of any organization for peace and security is by constructive action to create con-

INFLUX OF U.S. BUSINESS LIKELY IN HONG KONG

CHINESE AIR PLAN

Chungking, Dec. 17. A five-year plan for development of civil aviation in China was reported today in the Chinese press, which said that at the end of the period China would have about 40,000 miles of air lines. The plan was said to be divided into two stages, firstly, expansion of air lines to Formosa, Hainan, Manchuria and Japan, and, secondly, expansion to Spain, Russia, the Philippines and Australia. Associated Press.

"Cat" For Nathan Road Robbery

A unanimous verdict was delivered by the Standing Military Court yesterday in the case in which seven men were charged with robbing a dental surgeon on Nov. 19 at No. 27, Nathan Road. The court comprised Mr. Leo d'Almada, (President), Mr. Horace Lo and Capt. M. Lightbody. Mr. R. S. Smith, presented and the police were represented by Chief Detective Inspector S. B. Fraser. Mr. R. S. K. Brooks defended the fourth defendant, Tang Wing. The first accused, Chung Chi-fun, found guilty on a charge of receiving stolen property, was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour. The seventh defendant, Wong Kau, considered by the court to be the leader, was sentenced to five years' hard labour and six strokes of the whip. Three others, Lau Ka-nung, Cheung Ying, Tang Wing, were each sentenced to five years' hard labour. Guilty of counselling and abetting the offence, Hui Yung-ching was sentenced to five years' hard labour. The second accused, Lau Yung-ching, charged on counts of armed robbery and unlawful possession of arms and ammunition, was sentenced to five and three years' hard labour, respectively. The sentences to run concurrently. All the seven men were charged in connection with the robbing of a dental surgeon Hui Tui-gal, of H.K.\$70, C.N.\$50,000, a wrist watch, clothing and other articles.

Commando's Arrest Of Armed Robber

THE CLAIM THAT THEY WERE MEMBERS OF A SELF-DEFENCE CORPS IN THE EAST RIVER AREA WAS MADE BY LAU YUK-TING, LI YUNG AND LI SIU WHO WERE CHARGED BEFORE THE STANDING MILITARY COURT YESTERDAY WITH ARMED ROBBERY AT NO. 85, ARGYLE STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ON DEC. 5.

All three accused were found guilty of the charge of robbery and were sentenced to six years' hard labour each. Imposing sentence Mr. Leo d'Almada said: "A very serious view is taken by the court. The court has no hesitation in playing its part in helping the police to stamp out this type of crime which has been too prevalent in Kowloon. The court can lend assistance by inflicting deterrent sentences." The first accused, Lau Yuk-ting, was additionally charged with shooting, with intent to do bodily harm, L/Cpl. T. W. F. Jordan, of the 44 Commando. For this offence he was sentenced to eight years' hard labour. On a third charge of possession of arms and ammunition, he was sentenced to three years' hard labour was imposed. All the sentences to run concurrently. Li Yung, also charged with the possession of arms and ammunition, was sentenced to three years' hard labour, the sentence to run concurrently with the first.

The court comprised Mr. d'Almada, Mr. Horace Lo and Capt. Lightbody. Mr. R. S. Smith was for the prosecution. Mr. Smith said that the defendants, with four others not in court, went to the Kwong Hing Loon, at No. 85, Argyle Street, on Dec. 5 and held up the occupants of the shop. After obtaining the keys to the safe and desk they took away sums of money and other articles. The arrest, said Mr. Smith, was carried out with commendable speed by the police after L/Cpl. Jordan had captured the first accused. DREW PISTOL L/Cpl. Jordan, in evidence, stated that he was on patrol duty at Shanghai Street together with Mns. C. S. Evans when the action of three men aroused his suspicions. One challenging them, he rushed forward and grappled with the man and they both fell to the ground. Marine Evans then came to his help. They took the man to Mongkok police station. Acting on information received from Fraser to the Sun Ah Hotel, in Kowloon, and searched a certain room. They found nothing but on leaving met the second and third defendants coming back. Witness said he recognized both men who were then arrested. First accused, in a statement, said that when he was challenged he produced his pistol to show to the patrol. He intended to tell them that he was a member of a self-defence corps in Tui Fat Ling. Mr. Smith told the court that first accused had claimed to be a member of a military force operating in the East River. He had made a long statement in connection with the activities, main strength and disposition of this force. The report, said Mr. Smith, had been forwarded to the proper authorities. The police did not produce the statement in court because it was not relevant to the case.

REAR-ADM. CECIL H. J. HARCOURT, THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, TOLD A GROUP OF VISITING AMERICAN AND BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS IN A WEEK-END PRESS CONFERENCE THAT CHINESE PORT RESTRICTIONS WERE PUTTING BRITISH TRADERS AT A DISADVANTAGE IN COMPETITION WITH AMERICAN OPERATORS.

"AMERICAN PLANES AND WARSHIPS HAVE COMPLETE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN CHINESE WATERS," THE ADMIRAL WAS QUOTED BY HAL ROYLE, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING WAR CORRESPONDENT FROM EUROPE.

"The British haven't, and as a result, therefore, are at a disadvantage in trade matters."

He acknowledged that British vessels had suffered delays in receiving permission from Chinese government officials to dock in Chinese ports, but added: "There has been nothing to indicate this has been deliberate."

"Things are improving and it is certain that Britain, America and China must work together. China has a defence of a problem."

He said it was "quite likely" there would be a large influx of American business into Hong Kong because of the feeling on the part of American business men that they have more long term security here than in Shanghai, where they will be subject to Chinese and local government expropriation.

ON OUR OWN FEET He said the colony was not too far back into shape and food prices had dropped 50 per cent since occupation, although supplies still are short.

"UNRA" doesn't operate in Hong Kong," he explained, "the newsmen. I think we can stand on our own feet, but quite frankly we are at present a liability to the British taxpayer and will be until we can get commerce and industry going."

The Commander-in-Chief said that Adm. Sir Bruce Fraser would make this his headquarters for the British Pacific Fleet. "At least temporarily," he still undecided whether Hong Kong or Singapore will be the main British Pacific base."

WAYPOONG ARRIVALS

The staff of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has been further strengthened by the arrival by air of Messrs. Hunt, C. Brown and F. Chandler.

Major Hynes, Captain Wynyard and Captain Hetherington arrived to join Civil Affairs, and three A.T.S. nursing sisters, Mr. Mitchell, E. Padden and Miss Samsford are also reporting to Civil Affairs. All flew here from Singapore by Sunderland flyingboat.

Kwangtung Transport

Information bearing on progress in taking over land and water transportation facilities in Kwangtung Province since the Japanese surrender is issued by the Secretariat of the Canton Office of the Chungking Ministry of Communications.

Vessels and river craft taken over aggregated 380 odd, but most of them were under 100 tons, and a large number were in a badly damaged and unserviceable condition, so that until necessary repairs have been effected, they cannot be put into commission. The larger vessels are being used by the military authorities, and the others are being turned over to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co.

Regarding land transport, the Canton Kowloon Railway and the Canton-Samsung Railway are running but the Canton-Hankow Railway only the southern section is operating.

There is no prospect of early resumption of through service to Hankow, because the line further north has been very badly damaged and there are no materials or steamers for making the necessary repairs and replacements.

One of the greatest handicaps is the shortage of fuel. The coal supplied from Hong Kong is only just sufficient for the Canton-Kowloon line. Steers are being taken to bring coal from Panshok and Lokcheung in Northern Kwangtung to relieve the shortage.

CORRESPONDENCE

RICE REJOINER

Sir, With reference to the letter published in the "China Mail" of the 17th under the title "Rice Profits" and purporting to come from the pen of "A Rice Consumer", the whole case is based on the following allegation:

"The Rice is sold at the price of 15 cents per catty by the Authority and sell to the public at 20 cents per catty. But apart from this, there is absolutely no truth in the statement. It is false. All the transportation and distribution expenses are borne by Government but these expenses have no relation to the fantastic figure of 4 cents per catty. The statement that Government is receiving only 15 cents per catty is absolutely untrue."

M. K. LO, Officer in Charge, S.T. & I.

A WORD FOR THE SAILORS

Sir, After reading "Disgraced Civilians" letter of the 12th Dec., I am forced to write and say a few words for the sailors. In all the places I've been to during six years in the navy, I have not yet found the misfortune of a sailor who had the misfortune to come to the white people won't speak to you, and all the Chinese seem to want is either your money or your cigarettes. I have never been swindled out of so much money in such a short time in my life. With all this about, is it not possible that the sailor, denied intercourse by white people (who only think of him when trouble threatens) and other not being able to meet decent Chinese, or there are no decent Chinese, seeking the one place in Hong Kong where at least the people are nice to him. A sailor is a man you know, you colonists, and he likes his pint of Beer and someone to speak with as much as anyone. A sailor is naturally friendly, but when he meets with this studied coldness, what else is he to do, or where else is he to go, to find friendship or comradeship. Even though this friendship is paid for, it is at least—it's something.

About the only good idea the warped mentality of our Disgraced Civilians has come out with is that the British District should be centralised, so that our people who happen to be not like that may sail as a people.

Last but not least, notice, my name is not Disgraced Civilians, my name and address is supplied.

W. R. LYONS.

MISSIONARY KILLED

Bend Oregon, Dec. 17. Andrew T. Young, Chinese Christian missionary, today died in a hospital here after a two-car collision. The Rev. Duncan McRoberts, former missionary in the Orient, was seriously injured. Associated Press.

Spitfires Flying To Canton

SQUADRON 132 OF R.A.F. SPITFIRES, LATEST MODEL OF THE FIGHTER-BOMBER UNDER THE COMMAND OF SQUADRON-LEADER K. L. CHARNEY, WILL BE TAKING OFF THIS MORNING ON A GOODWILL FLIGHT TO CANTON.

The squadron is scheduled to arrive at White Cloud Aerodrome in Canton at 10 a.m., where the fliers will be received by the Air Officer Commanding, Canton Area, and will be his guests at a tea party at the aerodrome.

After tea, Squadron Leader Charney will pay visits to the G.O.C., General Chung Fickui, and the City Mayor, Admiral Chan Chak.

From 11 a.m. to 12 noon the squadron will, weather permitting, give a demonstration of aerial acrobatics, which, to the Canton populace, will be the cream of the programme.

From 12.20 to 2.20 p.m., the visiting airmen will be the guests of the G.O.C., General Chung Fickui, at luncheon at the Victoria Hotel, Shamen.

After luncheon the visitors will be taken on a sightseeing tour of the city, and at 3 p.m. the squadron will take off on its return to Hong Kong.

CANTON "TRIAL" EXAMS

Students of the former puppet Kwangtung University who wish to continue their studies are required by the Ministry of Education to undergo a three days' trial examination. Over 400 puppet students have registered for the examination.

Professors of the same university are, however, not allowed to take a trial examination, as they are banned from teaching by a recent ministry order. The president and dean of the university, and all other heads of puppet universities, are considered as traitors and are to be punished as such. All universities and schools in Kwangtung have been notified not to employ former puppet professors and teachers.

Admiral Power Hauls Down His Flag

ADMIRAL SIR ARTHUR J. POWER, K.C.B., C.V.O., WHO FOR THE PAST 12 MONTHS HAS BEEN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, EAST INDIES FLEET TO-DAY RELINQUISHED HIS COMMAND AND HOISTED HIS FLAG IN THE BRITISH BATTLESHIP H.M.S. HOWE, WHICH AFTER LEAVING SINGAPORE RECENTLY CALLED AT CEYLON ON HER WESTWARD JOURNEY TO ENGLAND. THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IS VICE-ADMIRAL C. MOODY, C.B., WHO WAS FORMERLY FLAG OFFICER, AIR, EAST INDIES, AND LATTERLY ASSUMED THE TITLE OF SENIOR OFFICER, EAST INDIES FLEET.

Admiral Moody's post will in turn be filled by Rear-Admiral R. M. Bridge, C.B.E., who hoisted his flag in H.M.S. Ukusaka to-day. He is a former Commanding Officer of the Aircraft Carrier "Ark Royal," sunk near Gibraltar by a U-Boat.

Admiral Power had assumed his command when the old Eastern Fleet was split into the Eastern Fleet and the British Pacific Fleet in November, 1944. This changeover took place only a few months after Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, the British Pacific Fleet Commander who is shortly arriving to take up his new headquarters in Hong Kong, had followed Admiral Sir James Somerville as C-in-C. of the Eastern Fleet.

Under Admiral Power the British East Indies Fleet proved a powerful factor in crushing the enemy from the West during the nine months before the end of the war. The year of "imposing series of strikes" was organised against Japanese bases in Malaya, Java and Sumatra, and the culmination of the Fleet's success came when its units stormed down the Straits of Malacca in September for the surrender of Singapore.

Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke Speaks On China

LONDON, DEC. 17. ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE IN BRITAIN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CHINA WAS AFFORDED AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE CHINA CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE LAST NIGHT TO WELCOME HOME DR. PETER AND MRS. HILDA SELWYN-CLARKE AFTER THEIR FOUR YEARS IN AN INTERNMENT CAMP IN HONG KONG. DR. SELWYN-CLARKE WAS FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE COLONY AND HIS WIFE (MISS HILDA BROWNING) WAS FOREIGN SECRETARY, CHINA DEFENCE LEAGUE, UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF MADAME SUN YAT-SEN.

Also present at the reception were Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lindsay who have only just arrived back in England from Yenan.

The speakers, Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke and Mr. Lindsay, were introduced by Miss Margaret Fry who was in the chair. Both explained in broad outline the chief trends of the political outlook in China to-day, the former supplying the background description of the work of the China Defence League at the same time paying a high tribute to Madame Sun for all she has done towards bringing Dr. Sun's plans for his people to fruition.

Continuing, Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke expressed the hope that an invitation would be extended to Madame Sun to come to Britain as it would lead to a closer understanding of China's problems and at the same time it would strengthen the bonds between the two nations.

Britain, standing for democracy as she does, should do everything in her power to bring about reconciliation between the Nationalist Government and the Communists and the Kuomintang in China.

NATURAL SOLUTION Uniting of the nation in this way was the natural solution but this unity could not possibly materialize whilst there was foreign interference in support of one section.

China, however, did require assistance from abroad to rebuild the ruins left by war but Mrs. Selwyn-Clarke emphasized what ever help was given in this way should not be of the ricebowl distribution type.

Chinese to help themselves and this could be accomplished through a planned medical organization to show the Chinese how to run institutions of this category themselves. Assistance in the conduct of co-operatives was another sphere which offered unique opportunity and only along similar lines could sound reconstruction be realised.

The speaker closed with a strong plea to tell China about Britain. China is eager, she said, to know about Britain's social planning.

Mr. Lindsay, who followed, stressed the situation in China was serious. Every step should be taken to stop civil war in that country. Continuing, Mr. Lindsay said General Chiang Kai-shek would be given a place in any Coalition Government which might emerge in China. London Press Service.

Mr. d'Almada, passing sentence of six months at Stanley, said that the Court was not inclined to grant the order because he "feels that after this detention you (defendant) may realise the errors of your ways and turn into a useful citizen."

He warned the boy that if he was to come before him again for any offence he would be much more severely dealt with.

A Question Of Age

The question as to whether a juvenile offender was of an age to be dealt with under the Juvenile Offence Ordinance was raised before Mr. Leo d'Almada, presiding at the Standing Military Court yesterday.

The case was that in which a boy, who gave his age as 15 years, was charged with aiding and abetting in the robbery of a married woman at No. 4, Peking Road, on Nov. 24. The boy had pleaded guilty to the charge when first arraigned.

Mr. D. H. Blake and Capt. William Penulume were the other two members of the Court.

Mr. R. S. Smith, the prosecuting officer, said yesterday that inquiries had been made by the police and the boy had been medically examined. The Medical Officer was of the opinion that the boy was between the age of 16 and 18 years. The boy had an inter-trial school who was of the opinion that the boy was of a character not suitable for admittance to the school.

Mr. Smith added that Col. Sansom had now set aside a special part at Stanley Gaol for offenders of this nature. Mr. Smith asked, on top of the sentence to be imposed, a deportation order.

Mr. d'Almada, passing sentence of six months at Stanley, said that the Court was not inclined to grant the order because he "feels that after this detention you (defendant) may realise the errors of your ways and turn into a useful citizen."

He warned the boy that if he was to come before him again for any offence he would be much more severely dealt with.

Charlie Gray Acquitted

The case in which Charles Gray and Wong Yau-sang were charged with possession at the Paramount hall of two packets of "Prince Albert" tobacco, of a type issued to the American Forces, was concluded yesterday morning at the Summary Court when Mr. C. Y. Kwan delivered written judgment. Wong Yau-sang was fined \$5 and Charles Gray was acquitted.

Following is the judgment delivered:—

"In view of my finding of facts is unnecessary for me to deal in the present cases with the interesting point of law on mens rea raised by Mr. Silva."

I find that in point of fact Wong Yau-sang, and not Charlie Gray, was in possession of the two packets of tobacco, the subject matter of the charge. Having regard to the clear warning appearing on each of the packets that it is provided only for the U.S. Military and Naval Forces, and to the other circumstantial evidence, I am satisfied that Wong Yau-sang was fully aware that the packets of tobacco in question were of a type issued to or provided for the Forces within the meaning of Article 8 of Proclamation No. 7. Accordingly I convict Wong Yau-sang and acquit Charlie Gray.

Wong Yau-sang is fined \$5 and the tobacco confiscated, to be disposed of according to the instructions of the C.S.A.O.

STREET HOLD-UP

On his way to deliver a packet, containing C.N.\$3,000,000 to a shop, a Fok, Chak Chik, while walking along Wing Lok Street West had a rude shock when three armed men accosted him and relieved him of his packet of money.

Chak was on his way to deliver the money for his master to the Wing Lok Grocery Shop, at No. 130, Wing Lok Street last evening about 6.30 p.m. A Chinese came up from behind and seized hold of his neck, warning him to keep quiet. Meanwhile three other men, armed with revolvers, had come on the scene.

One of the robbers took the money from Chak and escaped in the direction of the Western Market while the rest of the gang disappeared into a scavenging lane.

GERMAN DESPAIR IN U.S. ZONE Seem To Prefer System Operating In British Area

Experience In Colonisation

U.S. HEADQUARTERS IN GERMANY, DEC. 17. THE GERMANS IN THE AMERICAN ZONE OF OCCUPATION ARE IN DESPAIR, ACCORDING TO A REPORT RECEIVED BY THE U.S. MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION. THE REPORT SAYS THAT GERMANS IN THE ZONE HAVE REQUESTED THE BRITISH TO TAKE OVER THE ZONE, AND THAT GERMANS UNDER THE BRITISH REGIME OF NORMAL LIFE IN THOSE IN THE AMERICAN OR RUSSIAN SPHERES.

The German people in the American zone are in a state of despair, according to a report received by the U.S. Military Intelligence Division. The report says that the German people in the American zone are in a state of despair, according to a report received by the U.S. Military Intelligence Division. The report says that the German people in the American zone are in a state of despair, according to a report received by the U.S. Military Intelligence Division.

U.S. FAVOURS COMMUNIST DISSOLUTION

WASHINGTON, DEC. 17. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS STATED THAT IT FAVOURS THE DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN CHINA. THE STATEMENT WAS MADE BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN A REPORT TO THE U.S. SENATE.

The U.S. government has stated that it favours the dissolution of the Communist Party in China. The statement was made by the U.S. Department of State in a report to the U.S. Senate. The report says that the U.S. government has decided to support the Nationalist government in China, and that it favours the dissolution of the Communist Party.

The U.S. government has decided to support the Nationalist government in China, and that it favours the dissolution of the Communist Party. The report says that the U.S. government has decided to support the Nationalist government in China, and that it favours the dissolution of the Communist Party.

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Negrin Visit To Acheson

WASHINGTON, DEC. 17. ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN ACHESON RECEIVED JUAN NEGRIN, LAST PRIME MINISTER OF REPUBLICAN SPAIN.

A State Department official said they talked about Spain but did not elaborate. Negrin's visit served to emphasize in diplomatic circles United States displeasure with the present regime of Franco which had been expressed bluntly on previous occasions.

PERON WANTS TO BE PRESIDENT

Buenos Aires, Dec. 17. Launching his campaign for the Presidency, Colonel Juan Peron, former Vice-President who resigned in the midst of Argentina's recent political upheaval, told a crowd of 200,000 to-day that his party rejects all extreme ideologies.

HIGHER PRICE FOR "MERCURY"

Washington, Dec. 17. The Office of the Price Administrator to-day announced that basic retail prices for Mercury automobiles will be increased an average of four per cent. over those of January 1942 and additional increases for design changes range from \$20 to \$50.

Miomaster Plane Crashes

Washington, Dec. 17. The Army's "Miomaster" monoplane, No. 44, known as the "Miomaster," crashed near Green Hill, Maryland, today.

The crash of three officers was reported to safety. Associated Press.

The Money Or The Girl?

RIO DE JANEIRO, DEC. 17. THE NEWSPAPER OF CLAYTON, THROUGH ITS CORRESPONDENT IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, GAVE ITS READERS THE FOLLOWING:

An elderly man called on the town's newspapers, complaining that his 13-year-old wife, during the last year, had been married, washed his life time money of 15,000 cruzeiros.

"He added that he had reported the fact to the police, but the case was closed with him. Hence, he declared, he was willing to settle for part of his life's money or the girl." Associated Press.

INSUFFICIENT PUBLICITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE MILITARY NECESSITY FOR THE PRESENCE OF BRITISH AND INDIAN TROOPS IN THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF WINDING UP THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN AND AS AN ASSIGNMENT FROM THE ALLIED WAR COUNCIL, WRITES "THE TIMES OF LONDON" TO DAY.

THE NEWSPAPER SAYS THAT THE REOCCUPATION OF JAVA AND SUMATRA SHOULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE BEEN THE TASK OF DUTCH TROOPS.

It adds that it was equally obvious that the Dutch were in no way capable to undertake it, if taken with other commitments and Holland's own impoverished condition.

However, says the newspaper, it was a cardinal mistake that the area of South-East Asia Command was enlarged. "So that in the result the Americans were relieved of responsibility for the re-occupation of any part of the Dutch East Indies."

"Another mistake was the slowness of the proceedings with the re-occupation, which was largely caused by General MacArthur's order that no surrender ceremony should take place until the overall surrender of Japan."

"This resulted in the postponement of the Malayan landings for a matter of ten days and probably longer in the case of Java. It may have been impossible, but we are certain that if the Allies had been ready to move into Java immediately after the surrender the whole territory could have been taken over without any outbreak of violence."

The paper declares that it cannot be too strongly emphasized that "we have here Allied and not merely British responsibility. Similarly, responsibility for the new form of government to be built up in the Netherlands East Indies should devolve around the Allies, with due consideration being given to the Netherlands and Indonesian viewpoint."—Reuter.

They said Pingyan previously had been taken by puppet forces, supported by 1,000 Japanese troops and by Nationalist airplanes. A Communist dispatch also reported an anti-Communist mopping up campaign had been in progress on both sides of the Nanking-Shanghai railway.

Another Communist dispatch asserted the Communists Nov. 24 disarmed 160 puppet troops, including a battalion commander, 15 miles west of Peiping. Still another dispatch alleged 200 American trucks were handed over to Central Government forces at Tientsin, Shantung province, and were being used for purposes of "civil war," together with 24 tanks and 41 field guns.

RED CHARGES Communist quarters in Chungking alleged the Nationalists laid plans in November for large scale anti-Communist offensives which called for destruction of the main strength of the Communist armies within six months. They said 400,000 Nationalists had been massed in Shantung province alone, "where

NATIONAL GOVT.'S GOOD INTENTIONS

CHUNGKING, DEC. 17. PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON THE CHINA POLICY WAS, DEFINITELY RECEIVED IN CHUNGKING WHERE IT DISPELLED DISQUIETING APPREHENSIONS OVER AN UNFAVOURABLE DECLARATION.

OFFICIAL QUARTERS STATE THAT THE POLICY OUTLINED BY TRUMAN AGREES WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN ANALYSTS TO CONSIDER THE PERIOD OF POLITICAL TUTELAGE, PRESENTED BY DOCTOR SUN YAT SEN, FOUNDER OF THE REPUBLIC, TO PREPARE CHINA FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

They said the authorities had conveyed the National Assembly for May 15 next so that the body would institute constitutional government.

Official quarters cited evidence of the government's good intentions, creation of the all party non-partisan Political Consultative Council which is to consider and try to settle outstanding issues between Chungking and Yenan.

Communist quarters here hailed the "wholehearted" of President Truman's statement. They said the Communist all along favoured the establishment of a broad coalition government instead of one party rule and, if truly representative, the administration formed would have no real objection to the nationalisation of the Chinese army.

PEACE PARLEY'S Planes bearing the Communist delegates to the far-reaching peace parleys in Chungking were en route from Yenan when President Truman's statement was received.

The Communists here continued to insist that responsibility for the present strife rests with the Central Government.

They refused to make any specific comment on the Truman declaration that the United States would continue to assist in effecting the disarmament and evacuation of Japanese troops in the liberated areas.

"WE HOPE SO" As for the Truman declaration that "United States support will not extend to United States military intervention to influence the course of any Chinese internal strife," the Communist spokesman here said: "We hope this is so. We hope when General Marshall arrives this point will be effectively implemented."

The Communists particularly welcomed Truman's recognition of the fact the present Government of China is a one-party government.

Later on Sunday, Chou En-lai and four other Communist delegates arrived at the Chinese capital. Two others were already here.

The opening date of the conference has not been set but it is expected to begin around Christmas.—Associated Press.

LEE THEATRE COMING!

DRAKE THE PIRATE

Japanese Communist Platform

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC. 17. THE "PEOPLE'S WORLD," PACIFIC COAST COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED A FULL PAGE YESTERDAY TO A COPIOUSLY ILLUSTRATED SPREAD OF THE JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY PLATFORM.

In an accompanying editorial, the "World" said it was the first American newspaper to publish "the policies of the Japanese working class which may influence world history very markedly."

The editorial concluded: "The success of the policy should interest the American people, for only if it is successful can the American people feel free from the perils of a revived Japanese imperialism. Indeed, it would be well for both peoples if General MacArthur should follow the policies advocated by the Japanese Communists."—Associated Press.

DEATH OF MAN WHO OPENED TUT'S TOMB

London, Dec. 17. The death of Alfred Lucas at the age of 79 was reported by an Exchange Telegraph agency dispatch from Cairo to-day. Lucas was the last survivor of the party which opened Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922. He often elated his advanced age as proof of his legendary death, curse of all who touched the Pharaoh's tomb.—Associated Press.

A General Nuisance

WASHINGTON, DEC. 17. SENATOR THOMAS HART CONNELL, REPUBLICAN AND FORMER COMMANDER OF THE UNITED STATES ASIATIC FLEET, DECLARED SATURDAY THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS "ARE MAKING THEMSELVES A GENERAL NUISANCE" IN THE UNITED STATES.

The retired Admiral, in a radio speech, said: "There now has been some progress in withdrawing Japanese to the sea coast, but it has been slow because generally the entire necessity by tearing up railroad tracks, smashing bridges and making themselves a general nuisance insofar as getting the enemy out of China is concerned."

"The Japanese have behaved all right thus far, but their presence, many of them armed, is an unpleasant situation," he said.

NIMITZ'S NEW JOB Washington, Dec. 17. Fleet Admiral Nimitz yesterday took over his new post as Chief of Naval Operations with the statement: "I have just taken on a great responsibility. I will do my utmost to meet it."

Nimitz relieved the retiring Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King. Associated Press.

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"THORNYCROFT"

Our Branch Office has opened temporary premises at Messrs. Fair & Co., at French Bank building, 2nd floor, and we shall be obliged if all prospective clients will communicate enquiries to that address during the present emergency period where they will be promptly handled and communicated to our executive who is now proceeding to London to ascertain all details and specifications with prices of latest models on all lines of our products:— Vehicles—Petrol/Diesel. Marine Engines—Petrol/Diesel. Boilers—Water Tube. Motor Boats & Water Craft of all description. Our Hong Kong & China Office is a Direct Branch of:— Messrs. JOHN I. THORNYCROFT & Co., Ltd. 35, Smith Square, Westminster, London.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, (HONG KONG.)

MEDICAL BRANCH

NOTICE

Attention is directed to the following provisions of the Public Health (Food) Ordinance 1935:

No person shall slaughter any cattle sheep or goats or dress any carcasses thereof except within a slaughterhouse appointed for that purpose (Slaughterhouses, Regulation 7).

Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Ordinance or of any by-law made thereunder shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months. (Sec. 8-10).

J. P. FRILLY.

Col.

D. D. M. P.

Hong Kong.

17th December 1945

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION (HONG KONG)

CIVIL AFFAIRS

POLICE AND PRISONS BRANCH

All members of the former Police Force are hereby notified that they are invited to attend a meeting of the Police Training School on Monday, 18th December, 1945, at 10.00 a.m. at the Police Training School, 10, Queen's Road, Hong Kong.

Captain: T. O. THOMAS.
Former Adjutant.

Hong Kong Police Reserve.

Hong Kong.

17th December, 1945

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG

POLICE AND PRISONS BRANCH

It is hereby notified that sealed tenders, in duplicate, for the supply of meals to Chinese prisoners, witnesses and detainees for a period of three months commencing 1st January, 1946, will be received by the Chairman of the Tender Board, Public Works Branch, Civil Affairs Department, until 12 o'clock noon on Monday, 24th December, 1945.

Such tenders should be clearly marked "Tender for the supply of meals to Chinese prisoners." No tender will be considered unless the person tendering attaches thereto a receipt that he has deposited with the Accountant General at the Treasury a sum of \$25 as a pledge of the bona fides of his offer, which sum shall be forfeited to the Crown if such person, his tender having been accepted, fails or refuses to carry out his contract.

A model of contract of

(a) Prisoners and Witnesses

8 ozs. white rice.

2 " fresh or salt vegetable.

2 " fresh or salt fish.

1/2 " oil.

1 " tea.

(b) Detainees.

12 ozs. white rice.

3 " fresh or salt vegetable.

2 " fresh or salt fish.

1/2 " oil.

1 " tea.

Tenders may be for the supply of meals to any or all of the undernoted Police Stations:-

Central. Kowloon City.

Upper Levels. Shamshuipo.

No. 2 (Wanchai). Yau-mat.

Bay View. Mong Kok.

No. 7 (West Point). Hung Hom.

Shaukiwan. Wai Po.

(Tsimshatui).

The successful tenderer or tenderers will be required to sign an agreement and give security to the satisfaction of the Government in the sum of \$50.

For terms of tender and any other information apply at Police Headquarters, New Oriental Building, Hong Kong.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

C. H. SANSON, Commissioner of Police.

Hong Kong, 17th December, 1945.

Recriminations Go On As Before

COBB TO RACE AGAIN

Salt Lake City, Dec. 17. Speedster John Cobb, London fur broker who set the world auto record, will come to Utah soon from New York to discuss racing on Bonneville salt flats in 1947. Cobb's record was 368.9 miles per hour. Associated Press.

Unpleasant Shanghai Incident

An unpleasant incident occurred at the Majestic Theatre in Shanghai when about 400 American military personnel, for a social entertainment, met Lan Tang, who presented the Chinese Opera "Horse Training," found most of the 1,600 seats of the theatre occupied by members of the 60th Division, 3rd War Zone Army, says the "North China Daily News."

The Americans had been invited by Major Chen Tachun. When one of them tried to occupy the seats reserved for them, they were told to get out by the Chinese soldiers. The same thing was repeated by a Chinese officer who declared to the audience that the theatre was occupied by Chinese soldiers and therefore all American personnel were not allowed.

A spokesman of the Mayor's office explained the incident by saying that a free show was given for Chinese soldiers at the Tien China Theatre and that they probably mixed up the theatres. It was learned, however, that the soldiers began arriving at the Majestic at 4 p.m. and that all admissions that afternoon were by invitation only fell on deaf ears.

PUPPET CURRENCY

Manila, Dec. 17. The Philippine Congress to day continued its consideration of the McNutt amendment to the Philippine Currency Act, which would allow the Philippine Senate to determine the status of financial transactions made in Japanese puppet currency during the occupation.

The House Senate leaders said that important amendments have to be made before the measure is acceptable. Lobbyists are reported to be putting pressure for a higher valuation of the puppet currency than that obtained in the McNutt measure. It is known that speculators bought up large quantities of the puppet money next to nothing after the return of the Americans in the hope that some valuation will be set on it.

Jaime Hernandez, the Finance Secretary, plans to offer a substitute measure embodying administration views. Associated Press.

19TH VICTORY

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 17. Byron Nelson captured the \$10,000 Fort Worth open golf tournament yesterday with an 11 under par score of 273. It was his 19th tournament victory this year. Jimmy Demaret finished second, eight strokes behind Nelson. Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 17. The Philippine Resident Commissioner, Carlos Romulo, today appealed to the House of Representatives for immediate action on the Philippine Rehabilitation Bill making for its passage before the Christmas recess. Associated Press.

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CHINA EMPORIUM, LTD.

CHUNGKING, DEC. 17. DESPITE THE IMMINENCE OF NEW CHINESE PEACE TALKS HERE, THE CAMPAIGN OF MUTUAL RECKONINGS BETWEEN THE NATIONALISTS AND COMMUNISTS CONTINUES WITHOUT ABATEMENT. THE COMMUNISTS YESTERDAY CHARGED THAT NATIONALIST SECRET SERVICE MEN WERE TRYING TO LIMIT CIRCULATION OF THE "NEW CHINA DAILY NEWS," THE CHUNGKING MOUTHPIECE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

They charged that newsboys selling the paper often are brutally thrashed and that intimidation extended even to the readers. They also alleged that distribution of the paper in Kunning and Chengtu was being hindered by repressive police action.

A dispatch from North China said 29,000 Communists were preparing for a counter-offensive against Nationalists pushing toward Jehol along the Peking-Jehol railroad. It charged that the Communists had destroyed five bridges along the railroad to slow down progress of the Government troops.

CHANG'S BROTHER. Another dispatch said there had been a reshuffle of Communist war zone commanders under which Gen. Peng Tien-hai would command the Communists in the Peking-Tientsin area, Gen. Liu Piao those in Shan-tung and Gen. Ho Lung those in the Shansi-Szechuan sector.

As messages from Manchuria and parleys between Chinese and Russian representatives were still in progress at Chungking and differences still existed between them.

A dispatch portrayed Gen. Chiang Hsueh-uh, one of the brothers of young Marshal Chiang Hsueh-liang, as being pro-Communist. It alleged Chiang Hsueh-uh was in Yenan at the time of Japan's surrender and was sent immediately to Manchuria by the Chinese Communists. Associated Press.

Busy British Shipyards

London, Dec. 17. An unofficial estimate shows that British shipyards are now building 169 merchant ships of 197,000 tons gross as compared with 1,206,000 tons at the end of September.

An International Shipping Meeting will be held in London in January to consider the desirability of "any international co-operation arrangement" after official control ends on March 2. British shipowners fear that deregulation will not mean decentralisation since the Government will continue some direction or control by licensing.

The Chairman of the Coastal Section of the Chamber of Shipping complains that British shipbuilders lack incentive to reduce costs because they can fill shipyards with orders from foreign countries possessing sterling balances which must be spent here.

He says that British coastal and short-sea vessels have been little used by the Official Control. Foreign shipowners are allowed to retain practically the whole of their freight rates whereas British shipowners get only requisitioning rates. Reuter.

"MAN OF THE YEAR"

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 17. Bo McMillin, the coach who guided Indiana through an undefeated football season to its first Big Ten conference championship with the help of seven trainees, was named football "man of the year" by the Football Writers' Association of America. Associated Press.

Admirals Retire

Admiral Sir Max Kennedy Horton, G.C.B., D.S.O. and two bars, the British submarine ace in the Kaiser's war, who beat the U-boats in Hitler's war, has retired from the Royal Navy.

The Admiralty have announced that his retirement at the age of 61 is "at his own request, to facilitate the promotion of younger officers."

Appointed, C-in-C Western Approaches in November, 1942, Admiral Horton had the vital job of winning the Battle of the Atlantic.

Also announced is the retirement of three more Flag Officers. Vice Admiral Sir Henry R. Harwood, who, at the age of 57 has been placed on the retired list with the rank of Admiral, through ill health.

The most spectacular achievement of Vice Admiral Harwood was his victory in the battle of the River Plate, which ended in the German pocket battleship, Graf Spee, being scuttled in Montevideo Harbour on Dec. 17, 1939.

Vice Admiral J. H. Godfrey, has been placed on the retired list with the rank of Admiral and re-appointed in the rank of Vice-Admiral as Flag Officer Commanding Royal Indian Navy.

Vice-Admiral M. L. Clarke has been retired with the rank of Admiral. He is a navigation specialist.

GIRL BOUND OVER

An 18-year-old spinster, La Sim, was bound over by Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Court yesterday when she was convicted on a charge of housebreaking at No. 44B, Lyndhurst Terrace on Friday.

Sub-inspector Fong told the Court that the girl broke into the premises and stole clothing to the value of \$400.

Accused's mother, employed in a local Import and Export firm, undertook to be responsible for her daughter's future good conduct.

GREEKS RESTIVE

Athens, Dec. 17. The Communist Party and the Leftist National Liberation Front are reported to be planning simultaneous mass meetings against the government of Premier Photiades Sophoulis to-morrow in Athens.

In a press conference, Sophoulis declared it was necessary that measures be taken to maintain order. Associated Press.

KING GUSTAV

Oslo, Dec. 17. King Gustav of Norway, who is 87, yesterday resumed his tennis practice after a fortnight of illness. Associated Press.

Machines, tools, flour, and cotton which undoubtedly constitute a dominating force in the reconstruction of China, will be taxed only lightly, it was said.

When contacted to-day, a local financial expert declared that the new measure will have a vital bearing upon the development of China, as her national economy will not suffer so heavily as in the pre-war days when heavy imports of luxuries caused annual exports of large sums of Chinese dollars abroad.

Goods before being imported, will be checked in order to establish whether they can be itemized as luxuries or goods not necessary at present in China. Although no full list of

Mutiny

Paris, Dec. 17. Dispatches from Syria to-day said that a small-scale mutiny broke out among native and Christian troops at Hama, north of Damascus. The reports said the mutiny was led by a young captain in the Hama Military School. Associated Press.

Queen's Rd. Hold-Up

"I feel that justice would not be done if the accused are not represented. Under the circumstances the court will adjourn until arrangements can be made for the accused to be legally represented."

With these remarks Mr. Leo d'Almeida, President of the Military Standing Court yesterday adjourned the case in which five men, Chan Kwong, Chan Ming, Lo Man-so, Yuen Ngan and Chan Kui, are alleged to have committed an armed robbery in a side lane at Second Street, West Point, on Nov. 26.

The other two members of the court were Mr. Honce Lo and Capt. I. M. Lightbody. Mr. R. S. Smith appeared for the prosecution.

The two victims of the case, Lo Yung and Lo Tang, according to Mr. Smith, came to the Colony to look for a clansman. On the evening of their arrival they went with three other clansmen to a house. After the party broke up, the complainants were walking along Queen's Road West when they were held up by the defendants near Eastern Street. The defendants then searched the complainants and took away some money and other valuables.

Mr. Smith said that, under threats, Lo Yung and Lo Tang were made to go to a friend's house to borrow money to repay an alleged claim by defendants. They did not obtain any money and the defendants finally left after being handed an overcoat.

Mr. Smith added that the complainants throughout were constantly under threats and did not have a chance to summon aid.

Following evidence by Lo Yung, Mr. d'Almeida then moved for an adjournment of the case. He pointed out to the defendants that hearing was adjourned for two reasons. Firstly, in order that the police may be able to make further inquiries into the case, and secondly, should the case be proceeded with, for the accused to be legally represented.

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OLDSTER CHARGED

Manila, Dec. 17. The defense counsel for Teodoro Sison, puppet Minister of the Interior during the occupation, plans to call leading Filipino Congressmen to testify on behalf of the elderly official who is now facing 26 charges of treason and collaboration. Associated Press.

MEXICAN OPEN

Mexico City, Dec. 17. Al Espinosa, former United States professional, to-day won the 72-hole Mexican open golf title with a score of 290.

Percy Clifford, British amateur who lives here, was placed second with 298. Associated Press.

Heavy Tax On Luxury Goods Into China

SHANGHAI, DEC. 17. AS A MEANS OF PROTECTING CHINA'S TARIFF, THE CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS WILL IMPOSE A HEAVY TAX ON ALL KINDS OF IMPORTED LUXURIES WHILE METHODS ARE ALSO BEING CONTEMPLATED TO ENCOURAGE THE IMPORTS OF URGENTLY NEEDED GOODS IN CHINA, THE DAILY NEWS LEARNED FROM AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES THIS MORNING.

Machines, tools, flour, and cotton which undoubtedly constitute a dominating force in the reconstruction of China, will be taxed only lightly, it was said.

When contacted to-day, a local financial expert declared that the new measure will have a vital bearing upon the development of China, as her national economy will not suffer so heavily as in the pre-war days when heavy imports of luxuries caused annual exports of large sums of Chinese dollars abroad.

Goods before being imported, will be checked in order to establish whether they can be itemized as luxuries or goods not necessary at present in China. Although no full list of

luxuries is now available, commodities will be among those heavily taxed.

All the proceeds to be raised through the levying of heavy taxes on luxuries will compensate for the loss to be incurred through the levying of light taxes on necessities, it was said.

While all other possible means may also be employed, the decrease of import customs dues on a number of urgently needed goods will be the best method in encouraging foreign imports to China.

The present measure may be considered as one of China preliminary moves toward exercising her full power over tariff autonomy, it was pointed out.

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TO-NIGHT'S BASKETBALL

An exciting game of basketball

is expected to-night when a

specially picked team from the U.S.

Pugot Sound meets the strong

Chinese Y.M.C.A. team at 7.00

p.m. in the Chinese Y.M.C.A.,

Bridges Street.

The Pugot Sound has 18 teams

on board and this team will be

representatives of the whole ship,

which is the strongest of the pre-

sented Task Force 72 in the harbour.

They claim an undefeated record

and the "Y" promised a keen

tussle.

The basketballers are starting

from Blake's Pier at 6.00 p.m. this

evening. Those who wish to at-

tend the game should be there at

6.45 p.m. as there will be guides

to take them to the "Y" gymna-

sium.

LONDON OLYMPIAD

Montreal, Dec. 17.

The Canadian Olympic Com-

mittee to-day said it has been

informed by J. Sigfrid Edstrom,

President of the International

Olympic Committee, that the 1948

games will be held in London and

St. Moritz, Switzerland. Associated Press.

San Francisco, Dec. 17.

Charles O'Rourke, former Bos-

ton college star, headed four

touchdown passes as the Fleet

City Bluejackets closed their foot-

ball season on Sunday with a 27-

0 victory over the Fort Warren

CHUNGKING PUT ON THE SPOT

Konoye Was Worried

Tokyo, Dec. 17. Prince Konoye's second son, Michitaka, issued a statement yesterday saying that his father had left written documents containing "all the facts" about the Japanese position in 1941 and the Pacific war.

TOKYO RAIDERS MEET AGAIN

MIAMI BEACH, Dec. 17. LIEUT. GENERAL JAMES DOUGLASS AND 54 OF THE ORIGINAL 80 RAIDERS WHO MADE THE FIRST TOKYO RAID ON APRIL 18, 1942, MET LAST NIGHT HERE.

Polar Shape Of Things To Come

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. MEMBERS OF THE ATOMIC AGE SOCIETY, THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ARE BEGINNING TO WORK OUT PLANS TO DEFEND NORTH AMERICA AGAINST AN ATTACK FROM ASIA OR EUROPE ACROSS THE NORTH POLAR REGIONS.

They Should Tell Plenty

Washington, Dec. 17. Senator Howard C. Hughes, Republican, suggested to the Pearl Harbor investigating committee today that it hold out of evidence in order to hear testimony from Walter C. Short and Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, the Army and Navy commanders in Hawaii at the time of the attack.

Short and Kimmel are not on trial here, Brewster asserted. "This is not a court martial where all other evidence must be produced before they are heard. They ought to testify on their own terms where we will be looking else where to place some of the blame."

Surrender At Tabriz

Moscow, Dec. 17. A Tass news agency dispatch from Teheran reported that the Iranian Government's garrison at Tabriz had surrendered to the Iranian forces who have established the "National Government of Azerbaijan" for the north-western Iranian province on the Russian border.

The surrender agreement negotiated by Prime Minister Jafar Pishkavari of the new National Government and the garrison Commander General Darahshani permits officers unwilling to serve in Tabriz to return to Teheran.

The provincial governor, Bayat, who returned to Teheran on Friday reported he had been forced to leave Tabriz by forces of the separatist democratic party which had demanded autonomy from the Teheran regime.—Associated Press.

BOTTLENECK BROKEN

Washington, Dec. 17. The Navy announced today that the shipping bottleneck was being broken and veterans returning from Europe are ahead of schedule. It said that within a month or so there will be an excess of transportation for return of eligible veterans from the Pacific.—Associated Press.

A.P. Man's Views On Truman's Statement

Most Direct Statement Yet

(By Morris J. Harris)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD CHINA SHOULD REMOVE ANY DOUBT IN THE MINDS OF AMERICANS, CHINESE AND OTHER PEOPLES ABOUT THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO SEE PEACE RESTORED IN CHINA.

FURTHER, THE PRESIDENT TOLD CHIANG KAI-SHEK IT IS UP TO THE RECOGNIZED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA TO ACHIEVE NATIONWIDE PEACE AND TO BRING TOGETHER HIS REGIME AND THE COMMUNISTS BY THEIR DISUNITY TO RENDER CHINA IMPOTENT AND TO MENACE WORLD ORDER.

The President's pronouncement constitutes the most forceful and direct statement which the Chiang Kai-shek regime has faced since its inception.

While it was not addressed to the Chinese Government, or his Government, there will be no doubt in Chinese minds that the pronouncement is a notice to the Chinese National Government that the United States demands that China get its house in order forthwith.

The statement indicates that

American recognition and support will continue to go to Chiang Kai-shek "in every reasonable way," but makes it indubitably clear that the East American aid which China aspires to for her postwar rehabilitation and industrialization will depend largely on prior establishment of peace and unity by the Chinese Government.

CARDINAL PRINCIPLE

The President calls upon the two major opposing factions, the Nationalists and Communists, to forego the policies that they repeatedly have stated they would adhere to at all costs. The principal one is the declaration by both Chiang Kai-shek and the Reds that they will never make further concessions to the other in quest of internal unity.

As President Truman himself points out, he is asking the political descendants of Sun Yat-sen to forego one of the cardinal principles which Dr. Sun proclaimed. That is the one-party system for maintaining "political tutelage" until the Republic would be ready for full representative government.

"As China moves toward peace and unity along the lines described," the President concludes, the United States "would be prepared to give favorable consideration to Chinese requests for credits and loans under reasonable conditions, for projects which would contribute toward development of a healthy economy throughout China and healthy trade relations between China and the United States."

ON THE SPOT

The "along the lines described" reference is the "either or else" phrase that puts all China, especially the recognized Government on the spot, the "else" of which it has not experienced before.

As soon as the full impact of the President's statement has been experienced by both Chungking and the Communists, they will realize that if they are to remain major elements in China's body politic, they must move to comply with the President's stated desires.

General Marshall, en route today to China as the President's special envoy, is armed by the President's statement with the most powerful act of credentials and authority he might desire in undertaking the task of attempting to bring unity to China and thereafter lasting peace and progress.—Associated Press.

TROUBLE AT ATSUGI

Tokyo, Dec. 17. Allied Headquarters today directed the Japanese Government "to exercise a firmer control" over 7,000 Formosans camped in the vicinity of Atsugi Airfield awaiting repatriation.

The Formosans have been a source of considerable trouble to the military authorities and constitute a potential threat to the security of the airfield, the directive to the Japanese stated.

In addition to police work the Japanese were instructed to give evacuation priority to the Atsugi group.—Associated Press.

MOSCOW REPORT

London, Dec. 17. Shortly before the "Big Three" Foreign Ministers' Conference opened last night, the Moscow Radio, quoting a report from Tabriz, whose fall had been announced earlier, stated that the "Azerbaijani" Democratic forces had seized 40 more Azerbaijani towns.—Router.

TRAINS COLLIDE

Kollock, South Carolina, Dec. 17.—At least five were killed and more than 60 injured in a collision between two seacoast coastline passenger trains.—Associated Press.

U.S. Radio Press Offer

New York, Dec. 17. President Warren Lee Piers, of the American Cable and Radio Corporation, today announced that its subsidiary Mackay Radio plans to offer a worldwide press transmission service at approximately one-third of a cent per word.

He said an application has been filed with the Federal Communications Commission by the American Cable and Radio Corporation which is an affiliate of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation.

The new service would use Mackay's high power transmitters in New York and San Francisco with booster stations in European and Pacific areas.—Associated Press.

U.S. Firmness In Korea

SEOUL, Dec. 17. LIEUT. GENERAL JOHN R. HODGE, COMMANDING THE UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN KOREA, IN A STATEMENT TODAY, SAID THAT PUNISHMENT WILL BE DEALT TO ANY FACTION WHICH OPENLY OR SECRETLY ASSUMED GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY.

The statement emphasized that the Allied Military Government was the only government in Korea. He hit at the so-called "People's Republic" and groups or individuals who, Hodge said, were operating under it and assuming illegal administrative powers.

Hodge said that the "People's Republic" could operate as a political organization. He charged lack of faith on the part of its leaders. He said that they had promised to cooperate with the American Military Government and instead were posing as delegated representatives of the American Military Government.

Hodge said that provincial committees have hampered government efforts by persuading farmers to hoard rice and interrupt factory work. He said that they had also collected taxes and seized properties.—Associated Press.

French Going Whole Hog In Rhineland

(By Barbara Wake)

COBLENZ, Dec. 17. IN FRENCH OCCUPIED GERMANY YOU FEEL THAT THE COUNTRY IS BEING COLONISED. NOT JUST OCCUPIED.

THE WHOLE ATMOSPHERE IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT IN THE BRITISH ZONE. FROM THE SMALL CHILDREN WAVING FRENCH FLAGS TO WELCOME GEN. CHARLES DE GAULLE, TO THE FRENCH WIVES AND CHILDREN STROLLING DOWN THE STREETS OF THE LITTLE RHINE TOWNS ON A FINE AUTUMN SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

U.S. Military Split On China Policy

(Continued from page 1)

China at present is to support Nationalist Government military aims. Their mission was to disarm Japanese. That programme is at a practical standstill. Japanese troops have been removed from Korea, but few have gone from China.

Shipping shortages aren't the truth. The truth is that Chiang Kai-shek doesn't want them to go yet.

STILL A POWER

He is using Japanese civilian technicians to operate industrial plants in North China and he is using hundreds of thousands of Japanese armed troops to prosecute his undeclared civil war by acting as a buffer between him and strong Chinese Communist forces concentrated in Shensi province.

He is afraid that if the Japs are removed, Chinese Communist armies will try to sweep through to the sea, cut off his land lanes to Manchuria, isolate his armies there and perhaps regain all North China. That is why, although his homeland is occupied, Japan remains a real military power in China. It is this Japanese influence that President Truman wants destroyed.

(Mr. Boyle, the writer of this article on American policy in China, has just come to Hong Kong from Shanghai and North China. He covered the wars in North Africa and Europe for the Associated Press before coming to the Pacific. He won the Pulitzer prize in 1945 for the year's most outstanding work by an American newspaper correspondent.)

JUDGE SACKED

Tokyo, Dec. 17. Allied Headquarters today ordered the dismissal of Judge Tokuo Ishiwara, of Kyoto district court, for imposing an "unusually light sentence" upon a former Japanese army captain accused of carrying "sumo" for distribution to his disbanded command.

Allied headquarters said the "sumo" was the "first" of its kind won for incompetence in sentencing offenders against allied directives.—Associated Press.

Umberto Comes Out From His Shell

ROME, Dec. 17. HANDSOME 41-YEAR-OLD PRINCE UMBERTO, OF PIEDMONT, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF THE REALM, EMERGED BUSILY ON ITALY'S POLITICAL SCENE WHEN THE RIGHT-WING LIBERAL PARTY FORCED A GOVERNMENT CRISIS AND THE FORMING OF A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT PROVED DIFFICULT.

TOO BUSILY—FOR THE LIKING OF MANY ITALIANS IN WHOSE MEMORIES STILL RANKLE UMBERTO'S EASY COMPLIANCE WITH THE FASCIST REGIME AND WHO FEAR A RESTORATION OF ROYAL PRIVILEGES.

Since Italy's liberation the power of choosing a Premier had passed in fact, if not in form, from the monarchy to the National Committee of Liberation—a joint body of six anti-fascist parties.

As soon as Premier Ferruccio Parri resigned, the Prince, as head of the State, began traditional consultations to form a new Cabinet. During the crisis Sig. Alcide de Gasperi, leader of the Christian Democrat movement and former Foreign Minister in the Parri Government, visited the Prince several times to keep him informed of the development of negotiations. Previously the Prince's role had been confined to official interviews of the Premier.

The Royal Household's activities in the course of the crisis have been given a prominent place in the rightist press, which is critical of the display of pre-fascist orthodox constitutional procedure based upon the authority of the monarchy.

However, an outcry followed the news that Prince Umberto also received Guglielmo Giannini, the demagogic leader of the "Fasci" (the common man) movement, which serves to focus much mud-die-headed grumbling.

RECENT ARRESTS

Recent arrests of Fascist secret groups in northern Italy clearly revealed the connections of a movement for a Fascist revival, and aroused resentment against Giannini, whose behaviour under Mussolini and the present propaganda of anti-democratic organisations have already been the target of violent attacks.

Feelings ran particularly high over the reappearance on the scene of 86-year-old Vittorio Emanuele Orlando, 72-year-old Pietro della Torretta, President of the discredited and semi-purged Senate, of ex-Premiers Francesco Saverio Nitti, Indro Montanelli and Marshal Pietro Badoglio.

Prince Umberto's invitation to them followed the Liberal Party's demand for the inclusion of experienced non-party administrators. But if these elders don't belong to any party, neither do they enjoy any wide popular support. Their past blunders and misadventures are held to disqualify them from coping effectively with the extraordinary difficulties of the hour.

Popular feeling may best be summed up by inscriptions which were plastered in blue paint on Roman walls and jeering at "O.N.B." The letters stand for the initials of Orlando, Nitti and Bonomi—but also for "Opera Nazionale Balilla" for the former Fascist children's organisation.—Reuter.

Added Insult To Injury

In a report to the police, Tang Fun, a cyclist, stated that early yesterday afternoon he was engaged by a passenger to take him from Sun Sun Hotel to Hung Hom. When in Chatham Road near Pak Kung Street he was told to stop by the passenger.

The latter then threw the pillow cushion on the floor and forced the cyclist to pick it up. As he stooped to do so the passenger drew out a revolver, pointed it at him and forced him to hand over \$9.20, all the money he had.

The passenger then escaped by the bicycles.

SNIPERS DISTURBED

Los Angeles, Dec. 17. The Los Angeles "Times" commented editorially yesterday that "President Truman's blunt statement that he proposes to retain until all Japanese have been disarmed and returned home will not silence Communist sympathizers in the House of Representatives, who have been sniping at the Administration's China policy, but it will reassure the public."

"What disturbs the snipers, in reality, is not danger to the Americans, but the fact that Chiang Kai-shek is getting the upper hand over the Chinese Communists."—Associated Press.

Agreement

Chungking, Dec. 17. A Chinese dispatch said today that China and Russia have agreed on specific measures for China's assumption of the administration of Manchuria from the Soviets at a conference in Changhai to be held in by General Tu Ling-ming and the Generalissimo's son, Chiang Cheng-kuo.—Associated Press.

Bottles Bowl Them Over

Pedestrians in Wellington Street at noon yesterday were suddenly confronted by the unusual sight of a cart loaded with sacks of bottles emptying along the wet, slippery surface of the road.

Passers-by scattered in all directions, but not before 10 had been injured.

Several cartloads were inordinately pulling a hand cart loaded with about 20 sacks of empty bottles, when they lost control, probably due to the wet surface of the road. The cart swerved to the side then careered forward, bowling over several persons.

Out of the ten injured, two received injuries that warranted them being sent to Queen Mary Hospital but their injuries were described as of a not very serious nature.

JEEP ACCIDENT

A Chinese male, Chung Chuen, walking along Queen's Road West, at 3.40 p.m., yesterday, was knocked down by a jeep driven by Chan Yuen, a mechanic attached to Murray Barracks. Chung received injuries to both his legs, necessitating him being sent to Queen Mary Hospital.

WOUNDED DETECTIVE

Wan Chung, the Chinese detective who was shot in Connaught Road outside the Harbour Office on Sunday night is making satisfactory progress and his condition is reported as fair. The Police are confident of an early arrest.

RADIO

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18th 1945.

STUDIO-MICHAEL BODER (PIANO) CBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 840 Kilocycles and from 12.50 to 1.00 p.m., 6.00 to 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 9.51 Kilocycles.

8.15 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

1.00 p.m.—Duke Ellington and His Orchestra.

1.10 p.m.—News & Announcements.

1.30 p.m.—Virtuoso String Quartet.

1.50 p.m.—Morgol's 5th Concert Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—On so Down.

6.30 p.m.—Mozart's Sinfonia Jonica in G major.

7.00 p.m.—London delay News.

7.15 p.m.—"Sonata to the Stars"—ENSA.

7.30 p.m.—Studio—Michael Boder at the Piano. (by Courtesy of Pat'san Grid).

7.50 p.m.—Fraser-Simmons Compositions.

8.10 p.m.—"Services Music Hall"—ENSA.

8.40 p.m.—Daddy Pre-harshbaugh & Swing band—ENSA.

9.00 p.m.—London delay News.

9.05 p.m.—A Light Variety Programme.

9.30 p.m.—Gems from "The Chocolate Soldier," "Marilyn" & "The Bohemian Girl."

10.00 p.m.—Orchestral Concert with Columbia N. 16 (Exit No.).

10.30 p.m.—Marcel Wandick's Orchestra.

11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

Programmes marked ENSA are recorded specially for Services Entertainment by the Department of National Service Entertainment.

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